

The following actions, compiled by the Inspector General's Office as of August 1998, are testament to the ongoing success of LIUNA's innovative reform process:

Removed 189 individuals for criminal or ethical violations, or ties to criminal elements, through convictions, terminations or suspensions.

Filed charges and complaints against 132 individuals for alleged wrongdoing. Some focus on individual members or officers. Others are aimed at broader patterns of misconduct committed by LIUNA District Councils or Local Unions.

Prompted the resignations of 47 individuals who were targets of investigations.

Suspended eight individuals pending resolution of criminal charges.

Referred 25 criminal matters to federal or local law enforcement authorities.

In addition to these activities, we should note that the Laborers' have succeeded in using trusteeships and suspensions to rid our most problem district councils and local unions of all vestiges of corruption.

For example, the Mason Tenders District Council of Greater New York this year concluded its first officers' election since a trusteeship was imposed in 1994. The trusteeship has recovered \$12 million of the \$15 million in assets lost by the membership because of malfeasance.

The Mason Tenders Investigations Officer, Michael Chertoff, who also served as Majority Counsel to the Senate Whitewater Committee, has expressed his confidence in our aggressive efforts to prevent organized crime from ever regaining influence there.

Our Independent Officers have also imposed trusteeships over Local 210 in Buffalo and the Chicago District Council, which had historically been controlled by organized crime. Law enforcement authorities pursued both locals for many years with minimal success, but our internal reform process got results expeditiously and fairly.

In all, 19 trusteeships have been imposed, 17 in the U.S. and two in Canada, where all officers were removed and 10 supervisions have been established where the majority of officers were removed.

LIUNA'S ANTI-CORRUPTION TEAM

Our Inspector General, W. Douglas Gow, is the former Associate Deputy Director for Investigations at the FBI. He is charged with investigating and resolving disciplinary matters arising under LIUNA's Constitution or Ethical Practices Code, and supervising the union's compliance program that is designed to prevent and detect wrongdoing. He has assembled a first-class team of high-ranking, former FBI agents and law enforcement officers. This team is charged with pursuing every credible lead of possible wrongdoing.

We have taken extra steps to make it easier for union members to raise their complaints, questions or concerns through a toll-free 800 telephone number that goes directly into the Inspector General's Office. All calls are treated in the strictest of confidence.

Our General Executive Board Attorney, Robert Luskin, is the former Special Counsel for the Justice Department's Organized Crime and Racketeering Section. He serves, in effect, as the union's chief disciplinary official.

All internal hearings are held before the Independent Hearing Officer, Peter F. Vaira, a former director of the President's Commission on Organized Crime and a former U.S. Attorney for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania. W. Neil Eggleston, a former Chief Appellate Attorney for the U.S. Attorney's Office for the Southern District of New York, serves as the Independent Appeals Officer.

A FINAL NOTE

As we stated earlier, our reform process is not perfect, but it has made more progress in

the last 41 months in ferreting out corruption and identifying wrongdoings than any other union. We are proud of what we have accomplished, and we will continue to work hard to make our union the strongest, cleanest and most democratic for our members.

□ 2010

GREEDY PLAYERS, GREEDY OWNERS, AND PUTTING AMERICA FIRST

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Tennessee (Mr. DUNCAN) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. DUNCAN. Mr. Speaker, we are all reading the reports about economic troubles all over the world. We are also being told that these problems are already starting to affect the economy here in this country. Yet at the same time a small group of people who are averaging over \$2½ million a year are getting ready to go on strike. I am talking of course about the NBA.

Today professional sports has become filled with greedy players and greedy owners, and nowhere is this more obvious than in pro basketball. Last year one of my sons told me that one little-known player had signed a 6-year, \$123 million contract, 20½ million dollars a year. I told my son that the sports world has simply gone berserk.

I hope the NBA players and owners cannot work out their differences. I hope the whole season is lost. If they do play, I wish people would just refuse to watch and instead go to college or high school games.

I remember a couple of years ago hearing about a major league baseball player signing for 3 years for \$6 million a year. The average person in this country today makes less than \$25,000 a year. If a person worked for 40 years at 25,000 a year, he would make \$1 million for his whole career. If he was way above average, making 50,000 a year, he would make \$2 million over a 40 year career. A person would have to average \$150,000 a year for 40 years to make \$6 million.

These pro sports salaries are simply out of whack. I do not support giving government more money because so much of it is wasted, and turning money over to government is the least efficient way to spend money and the least efficient way to create jobs that you could find. But with these ridiculous salaries as high as they are now and especially if they continue to escalate, then we should lower the taxes on middle-income people and make it up by raising the taxes on these athletes and movie stars who are making millions of dollars a year.

Mr. Speaker, if we are about to hit some hard economic times, then we need to try even harder to see that we use our money and spend our money in the wisest ways possible. We need to give people more incentives to save and more incentives to invest especially in companies that create manufacturing and industrial jobs, good paying jobs.

We need to stop giving tax breaks and spending huge sums of public money for pro sports companies so they can raise the salaries of athletes who are already being paid obscene amounts already.

While I am discussing inefficient, unfair ways of spending public money, I should mention that unfortunately we are about to give many billions more to the International Monetary Fund in this end-of-the-year omnibus appropriations bill. We will be doing this against the advice of people like George Schultz, the former Treasury Secretary; Jack Kemp, a former leader in this body; James K. Glassman, the Washington Post financial columnist and many others. Mr. Glassman wrote this past Tuesday that:

The IMF bears responsibility for Asia's troubles. With the U.S. Treasury in 1995, it delivered unprecedented sums to bail out banks and investors who made reckless loans to Mexico. That rescue then encouraged investors to make riskier extensions of credit to Asia, Russia and Latin America. That led to over capacity and to the current crisis.

In other words, we are taking billions from lower and middle income Americans to send to foreign countries to bail out rich investors, banks and multinational companies for bad investments overseas and in some cases to help keep factories going in other nations which are taking jobs from American workers. Our Founding Fathers never would have believed this. We are told we have to do this because if we do not, other countries will not be able to buy as many American products, and some American workers will lose their jobs. What we would really be doing though is sending billions of American tax dollars to other countries so that we can get a portion of it back.

Already our balance of payments deficit, our trade deficit is at record levels. We will lose about 3 million jobs to other countries because of a trade imbalance this year alone. If we kept all of these billions here instead of giving it to the IMF, some multi-national companies and international bankers and investors might be hurt. But this money would not disappear if we simply kept it here. More of it would then go to the benefit of American workers and small American businesses that do not do much or any business overseas.

Mr. Speaker, as I have said on this floor before, we need to start putting our own workers and our own businesses first once again. We need to start putting America first once again, even if it is not politically correct or fashionable with liberal elitists to do so.

SEMI-ANNUAL REPORT PURSUANT TO THE CUBAN DEMOCRACY ACT OF 1992—MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. SHIMKUS) laid before the House the following message from the President of

the United States; which was read and, without objection, referred to the Committee on International Relations, and ordered to be printed:

To the Congress of the United States:

This report is submitted pursuant to 1705(e)(6) of the Cuban Democracy Act of 1992, 22 U.S.C. 6004(e)(6) (the "CDA"), as amended by section 102(g) of the Cuban Liberty and Democratic Solidarity (LIBERTAD) Act of 1996, Public Law 104-114 (March 12, 1996), 110 Stat. 785, 22 U.S.C. 6021-91 (the "LIBERTAD Act"), which requires that I report to the Congress on a semiannual basis detailing payments made to Cuba by any United States person as a result of the provision of telecommunications services authorized by this subsection.

The CDA, which provides that telecommunications services are permitted between the United States and Cuba, specifically authorizes the President to provide for payments to Cuba by license. The CDA states that licenses may be issued for full or partial settlement of telecommunications services with Cuba, but may not require any withdrawal from a blocked account. Following enactment of the CDA on October 23, 1992, a number of U.S. telecommunications companies successfully negotiated agreements to provide telecommunications services between the United States and Cuba consistent with policy guidelines developed by the Department of State and the Federal Communications Commission.

Subsequent to enactment of the CDA, the Department of the Treasury's Office of Foreign Assets Control (OFAC) amended the Cuban Assets Control Regulations, 31 C.F.R. Part 515 (the "CACR"), to provide for specific licensing on a case-by-case basis for certain transactions incident to the receipt or transmission of telecommunications between the United States and Cuba, 31 C.F.R. 515.542(c), including settlement of charges under traffic agreements.

The OFAC has issued eight licenses authorizing transactions incident to the receipt or transmission of telecommunications between the United States and Cuba since the enactment of the CDA. None of these licenses permits payments to the Government of Cuba from a blocked account. For the period January 1 through June 30, 1998, OFAC-licensed U.S. carriers reported payments to the Government of Cuba in settlement of charges under telecommunications traffic agreements as follows:

AT&T Corporation (formerly, American Telephone and Telegraph Company)	\$12,795,658
AT&T de Puerto Rico	292,229
Global One (formerly, Sprint Incorporated)	3,075,733
IDB WorldCom Services, Inc. (formerly, IDB Communications, Inc.)	4,402,634
MCI International, Inc. (formerly, MCI Communications Corporation)	8,468,743
Telefonica Larga Distancia de Puerto Rico, Inc.	129,752
WilTel, Inc. (formerly, WilTel Underseas Cable, Inc.)	4,983,368

WorldCom, Inc. (formerly, LDDS Communications, Inc.)	5,371,531
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39,519,648

I shall continue to report semiannually on telecommunications payments to the Government of Cuba from United States persons.

WILLIAM J. CLINTON.

THE WHITE HOUSE, October 8, 1998.

HONORING HENRY B. GONZALEZ FOR 4½ DECADES OF SERVICE TO THE HOUSE AND THE PEOPLE OF THE 20TH CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT OF TEXAS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 7, 1997, the gentleman from Texas (Mr. GREEN) is recognized for the balance of the Minority Leader's hour, approximately 51 minutes.

Mr. GREEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise tonight and requested this special order and share it with a number of our colleagues to pay tribute to our friend and colleague and the Dean of the Texas Congressional Delegation, the distinguished Congressman from 20th Congressional District of Texas, HENRY B. GONZALEZ. It is an honor to be associated with such a great man, and we wish him well in his retirement.

Texas has many colorful and distinguished leaders, some of which have reached the level of legend. HENRY B. GONZALEZ worked in Congress and his dedication to his constituents places him that top category. HENRY B. has been noted as being the last great populist. His tenacity marks his good works. He has been a voice and not a echo, and he has also been known as a fighter.

And I will go on, Mr. Speaker, but I would like to yield to the incoming Dean of the Texas Democrat delegation, my colleague from Dallas, MARTIN FROST.

Mr. FROST. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor my friend and colleague, the Dean of the Texas Delegation, HENRY B. GONZALEZ of San Antonio. HENRY is leaving Congress, but in doing so he is leaving behind a legacy of nearly four decades of service to this House and to the people of the 20th Congressional District of Texas.

When HENRY first came to Congress in 1961, he tacked a sign to the door of his office which said, "This office belongs to the people of the 20th Congressional District of Texas."

Throughout his career both here and in Washington and in Texas, HENRY has been a man of the people and a tireless advocate for the less fortunate among us. He has stood tall for the people of the 20th District of Texas by championing affordable housing for all Americans, especially the poor, equal rights for every American regardless of their heritage, and above all decency and honesty in his actions as a public servant.

HENRY is, however, a man of great independence, and he has demonstrated

time and again this willingness to take a stand regardless of which way the political winds might be blowing. He has never been afraid to stake out his own position and defend it regardless of how unpopular it might make him. He is a man of great integrity, and he will be missed.

HENRY B., as he is affectionately known to our delegation and to his constituents, has been in San Antonio for much of this Congress recovering from an illness that may have slowed him down but could not stop him. I am so grateful he has joined us again for these last days of the 105th Congress so that we can all pay tribute to a truly great American.

HENRY, I salute you and wish you well as you return to San Antonio. I know that just because you are not in Congress that your voice will not be silenced. I expect to hear that you have once more found a way to stand up and defend those who cannot do so for themselves.

Via con Dios, mi amigo.

Mr. GREEN. Reclaiming my time, Mr. Speaker, Congressman GONZALEZ' outstanding 45 year career of public service and his 38 year career demonstrates his deep commitment to public service and his constituents and his thorough knowledge of the House procedures in his dedication to this House of Representatives. Prior to his election to the House of Representatives in 1961, HENRY B. served as a member of the San Antonio City Council and as City Mayor Pro Tem. He was subsequently elected to the Texas State Senate where he is remembered as a champion of the people. He is revered, known, for leading a 36 hour filibuster against legislation which sought to uphold and facilitate the principles of segregation.

□ 2020

HENRY B. held the floor of the Texas Senate for 22 hours and 2 minutes finishing shoeless and exhausted but victorious in the late 1950s. He made such an impression on the Texas State Senate that his portrait hangs in the chamber in Austin, Texas. Only one other Member of Congress has ever had their portrait hung in the Chamber of the Texas Senate, the late Barbara Jordan.

HENRY B. was elected to Congress in 1961, and his legislative agenda included housing, the need for lower interest rates, education, adequate energy supply at a reasonable price, more industry for San Antonio, increases in minimum wage, not only as a State Senator in Texas in the 1950s, but also a host of other issues that are important to the people in his community and the people in the State of Texas but also the people of our Nation.

Throughout his service in Congress, HENRY B. has made his mission to force the chief executive to justify any military action. In 1983, Congressman GONZALEZ was the only Member calling for the withdrawal of U.S. troops from Lebanon.